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Services Division

Committee on European Satellites

(EuSat Committee Meeting - 20th Meeting - 1330 8 Aug 1956)

Present:

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"Petroleum in the European Satellites" was the topic for discussion in the 8 August meeting of the Satellite Committee. Mr. [REDACTED] 25X1A9a
25X1A9a [REDACTED], petroleum analyst in M/P, was the speaker. Mr. [REDACTED] 25X1A9a
began by pointing out the various oil producing areas and the regions where geological conditions indicate favorable prospects for future discoveries. While some oil is produced in each of the satellites except East Germany, production is heavily concentrated in Rumania. Only Rumania and Albania are able to satisfy their domestic requirements for petroleum products. Hungary produces a substantial portion of its own needs but East Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia are heavy importers of oil. Although Bulgaria has made notable recent discoveries in the Dobruja area, it still relies on imports from Rumania. Despite recent growth in satellite production and the anticipated development during the 1956-60 period, the satellites, according to current estimates, will produce in 1960 a smaller percentage of bloc petroleum than in 1955.

Among the various means of transporting petroleum in eastern Europe, vessels operating on the Danube are particularly important. Railroad tank cars and pipelines also move large quantities of petroleum and petroleum products. Production of refined products is more widely distributed than production of crude oil, East Germany (which also produces large quantities of synthetic fuel from coal) and other northern satellites accounting for considerable output of refined products. Technologically the refineries are somewhat behind the US but, since the satellites have little need for certain fractions which are important in the US, some of the complicated processing in the latter country is not necessary in Rumania.


Natural Gas, like petroleum, is produced chiefly in Rumania but

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there are small amounts in other satellite countries. It is believed that large amounts of gas in Rumania are being flared because of the lack of transmission lines or readily available markets near producing wells.

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 and two other linguists from FDD will appear at the 15 August meeting to discuss mutual problems of OHR and FDD with regard to Polish and Czech source material. In view of OHR's heavy dependence on FDD for assistance in exploiting materials in the many satellite languages, this meeting (and subsequent ones for other areas) should afford an opportunity to better coordinate our efforts.

You will recall that, in the future, meetings will be held in room 2130 "M", time (1330) and day (Wednesday) remaining the same.



Chairman

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